

SMWCon Fall 2016

September 28 to 30, Frankfurt am Main

Introduction and tutorial to Semantic MediaWiki

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Overview

- What does semantic mean?
- What is Semantic MediaWiki?
- How does it work?
- How-tos and examples galore!
 - Setting values
 - Querying pages

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What does semantic mean?

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What does semantic mean?

sem•an•tic (sĭ-măn'tĭk)

adj. Of or relating to meaning,
especially meaning in language.

→ Data is given an explicit meaning.

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What is Semantic MediaWiki?

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What is Semantic MediaWiki?

- First proposed in August 2005 at Wikimania in Frankfurt am Main
 - Paper by Markus Krötzsch, Denny Vrandečić and Max Völkel
 - “Wikipedia and the Semantic Web – The MissingLinks”
- First released in September 2005 (v0.1)
 - Extension to the MediaWiki software
- First stable release in December 2012 (v1.0)
 - Full-fledged framework with many spin-off extensions since then

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What is Semantic MediaWiki?

- Aims at making data more readable for humans and machines
 - Lets you store and query data within the wiki's pages
 - Lets you publish data via the Semantic Web
- Can be used to transform a wiki into a powerful information or data management system
 - Best used if out of the box software does not provide all the required functionality
 - Best used if creating a software with the required functionality is too expensive

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How does it work?

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How does it work?

- A fact consists of three parts:
 - Wikipage (subject), e.g. “Berlin”
 - Property (predicate), e.g. “Has population”
 - Value (object), e.g. “3,520,031”

Fact:

→ Berlin has a population of 3,520,031 people.

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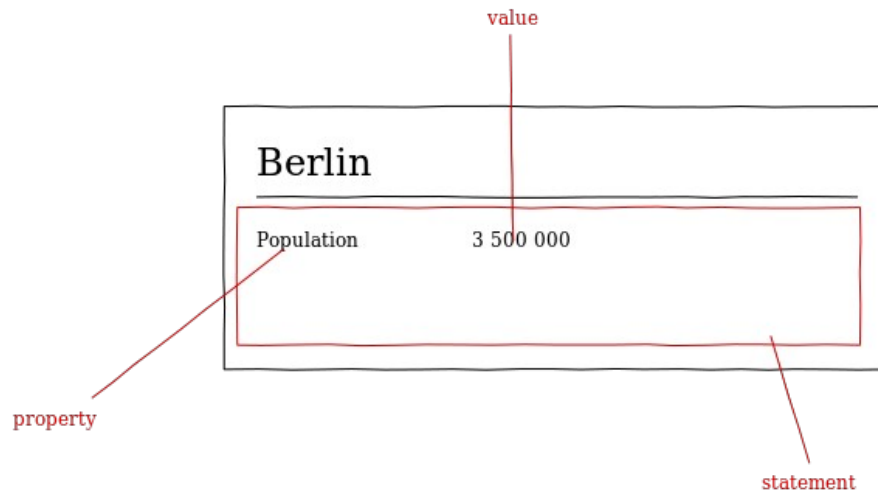
How does it work?

- These three parts can be split into a relation and a statement:
 - Relation: Berlin has a population.
 - Statement: The population is “3,520,031”.

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How does it work?

- A statement consists of a property and its value:
 - Property (predicate), e.g. “Has population”
 - Value (object), e.g. “3,520,031”



→ Adding a statement to a page (subject) is called annotation.

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How does it work?

- A property must have a datatype:
 - Needed to give the property a certain meaning.
 - Needed to be able to also do a formal check of the assigned value.
 - Needed to allow a certain behaviour, i.e. add links, add formatting, etc.

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How does it work?

- A property must have a datatype:
 - There are a lot of datatypes, e.g. “Page”, “Text”, “Number”, “Email”, “URL”, “Telephone Number”, “Temperature”, “Boolean”, etc.
 - A property can only have one datatype.

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How does it work?

- A property must have a datatype (example):
 - “Has population” is of datatype “Number”.
 - If you add the value “abc” to the property “Has population” it knows that this is not a number. Thus the value does not have a meaning and must be incorrect.

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How does it work?

- A property must have a datatype (example):
 - Created in the “Property” namespace.
 - Page: “Property:Has population”
 - Content: `[[Has type::Number]]`

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How does it work?

- A property can be a “special property”:
 - It has a predefined meaning and purpose.
 - It cannot be created manually.
 - It cannot be changed and used otherwise, i.e. must be unique.
 - There are a lot of special properties, e.g. “Has type”, “Allows value”, “Modification date”, “Has improper value for”, “Has subobject”, “Has query”, etc.

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How does it work?

- A property can be a “special property” (examples):
 - Special property “Has type” assigns the datatype to a user defined property (manual assignment)
 - Special property “Has improper value for” stores incorrect values assigned to a property (automatic assignment)

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How-tos and examples galore!
Setting values

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How-tos and examples galore! Setting values.

- Setting values (syntax):
 - In-text annotation (single values for one property)

```
[[Property name::Property value]]
```

The property value is directly shown on the page.

- `#set` annotation (single values for one property)

```
{{#set:Property name=Property value}}
```

The property value is not directly shown on the page.

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How-tos and examples galore! Setting values.

- Setting values (syntax):
 - In-text annotation (multiple values for one property)

```
[[Property name::Property value 1]]
```

```
[[Property name::Property value 2]]
```

The property values are directly shown on the page.

- `#set` annotation (multiple values for one property)

```
{{#set:
```

```
Property name=Property value 1; Property value 2|+sep=;
```

```
}}
```

The property values are not directly shown on the page.

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How-tos and examples galore! Setting values.

- Let's work with a real life use case:

Organizing information about books.

- Information to be stored:

- Title of the book
 - Author of the book
 - Publisher of the book
 - Publishing year of the book
 - Publishing country of the book
 - ISBN of the book
 - Rating for the book

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How-tos and examples galore! Setting values.

- Let's work with a real life use case:

Organizing information about books.

- Needed properties and their datatypes:

- “Has book title” → datatype “Text”
 - “Has book author” → datatype “Page”
 - “Has book publisher” → datatype “Page”
 - “Has book publishing year” → datatype “Date”
 - “Has book ISBN” → datatype “Text”
 - “Has book publishing country” → datatype “Page”
 - “Has book rating” → datatype “Number”

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How-tos and examples galore! Setting values.

- Let's work with a real life use case:

Organizing information about books.

- Syntax to store the information:

```
This page is about the book called [[Has book title::The
Picture of Dorian Gray]] written by [[Has book
author::Oscar Wilde]]. It was published by [[Has book
publisher::Titan Books]] in the [[Has book publishing
country::UK]], [[Has book publishing year::2015]]. The ISBN
is [[Has book ISBN::978-1783293650]]. My personal rating
for this book is [[Has book rating::1]].
```

```
[[Category:Book]]
```

Probably one would prefer a tabular instead of a text presentation for this kind of subject but that's entirely up to you.

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How-tos and examples galore! Setting values.

- Let's work with a real life use case:
Organizing information about books.



Here you cannot see if the information is stored semantically. Therefore use special page "Browse" via the sidebar to have a look and see what is stored. →

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How-tos and examples galore! Setting values.

- Let's work with a real life use case:
Organizing information about books.

Special page Search

Browse wiki [RDF](#) [Help](#)

The Picture of Dorian Gray	
Has book ISBN	978-1783293650 + Q
Has book author	Oscar Wilde + Q
Has book publisher	Titan Books + Q
Has book publishing country	UK + Q
Has book publishing year	2015 + Q
Has book rating	1 + Q
Has book title	The Picture of Dorian Gray + Q
Creation date	15:44:24, 25 September 2016 + Q
Categories	Book
Last editor is	User:Kghbln + Q
Modification date	16:01:45, 25 September 2016 + Q
Is a new page	false + Q
Page creator	User:Kghbln + Q
Page author	User:Kghbln + Q
Number of revisions	3 + Q
Page ID	1,442 + Q
Revision ID	3,857 + Q
hide properties that link here	
No properties link to this page.	

Special page Search

Browse wiki [RDF](#) [Help](#)

The Picture of Dorian Gray	
Has book ISBN	978-1783293650 + Q
Has book author	Oscar Wilde + Q
Has book publisher	Titan Books + Q
Has book publishing country	UK + Q
Has book publishing year	2015 + Q
Has book rating	1 + Q
Has book title	The Picture of Dorian Gray + Q
Creation date	15:44:24, 25 September 2016 + Q
Categories	Book
Last editor is	User:Kghbln + Q
Modification date	16:01:45, 25 September 2016 + Q
Is a new page	false + Q
Page creator	User:Kghbln + Q
Page author	User:Kghbln + Q
Number of revisions	3 + Q
Page ID	1,442 + Q
Revision ID	3,857 + Q
hide properties that link here	
No properties link to this page.	

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Relevant documentation:
 - Property naming
 - Datatypes
 - In-text annotation
 - #set-annotation
 - Special properties
 - Special page "Browse"

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How-tos and examples galore!

Querying pages

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- `#show query`

- `{{#show: Page name |?Property name }}`

- * Display only a single property value for a single page.

- * This is not about selecting pages which is what Semantic MediaWiki is actually there for.

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- `#ask` query or inline query or semantic query

- Consists of two parts

- Query condition

- This is about selecting the pages containing information.

- Printout statement

- This is about displaying the information found on the queried pages.

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):
 - `#ask query`
 - Query condition (selecting pages)

```
{{#ask:  
  [[Category:Book]]  
  [[Has book title::+]]  
  printout statement  
}}
```

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- `#ask query`

- Printout statement (displaying information)

```
{{#ask:  
  query condition  
  |?Has book title  
  |?Has book author  
  |?Has book publishing year  
  |?Has book ISBN  
  |?Has book rating  
}}
```

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):
 - `#ask query`
 - Query condition + printout statement

```
{{#ask:  
  [[Category:Book]]  
  [[Has book title::+]]  
  |?Has book title  
  |?Has book author  
  |?Has book publishing year  
  |?Has book ISBN  
  |?Has book rating  
}}
```


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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

Page	Discussion	Read	Edit	View history	★	More ▾	<input type="text" value="Search"/>	Q
Books								
	↕ Has book title ↕	Has book author ↕	Has book publishing year ↕	Has book ISBN ↕	Has book rating ↕			
Das Glasperlenspiel	Das Glasperlenspiel	Hermann Hesse	2012	978-3518463574	1			
Il Gattopardo	Il Gattopardo	Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa	1990	978-8807810282	2			
Johann Christof	Johann Christof	Romain Rolland	1977	978-3423020329	1			
Siddhartha	Siddhartha	Hermann Hesse	1974	978-3518366820	1			
The Picture of Dorian Gray	The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde	2015	978-1783293650	1			
The Turn of the Screw	The Turn of the Screw	Henry James	1991	978-0486266848	2			
Venus in Furs	Venus in Furs	Leopold von Sacher-Masoch	2008	978-1604501292	3			

... but the first column is missing a label!

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- `#ask query`

```
{ {#ask:
  [[Category:Book]]
  [[Has book title::+]]
  |?Has book title
  |?Has book author
  |?Has book publishing year
  |?Has book ISBN
  |?Has book rating
  |mainlabel=title
}}
```

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

Page [Discussion](#) [Read](#) [Edit](#) [View history](#) [More](#)

Books

titel	Has book title	Has book author	Has book publishing year	Has book ISBN	Has book rating
Das Glasperlenspiel	Das Glasperlenspiel	Hermann Hesse	2012	978-3518463574	1
Il Gattopardo	Il Gattopardo	Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa	1990	978-8807810282	2
Johann Christof	Johann Christof	Romain Rolland	1977	978-3423020329	1
Siddhartha	Siddhartha	Hermann Hesse	1974	978-3518366820	1
The Picture of Dorian Gray	The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde	2015	978-1783293030	1
The Turn of the Screw	The Turn of the Screw	Henry James	1991	978-0486266848	2
Venus in Furs	Venus in Furs	Leopold von Sacher-Masoch	2008	978-1604501292	3

... but the book title is duplicated!

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- #ask query

```
{ {#ask:  
  [[Category:Book]]  
  [[Has book title::+]]  
  |?Has book author  
  |?Has book publishing year  
  |?Has book ISBN  
  |?Has book rating  
  |mainlabel=title  
}}
```

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

Page **Discussion** Read Edit View history ★ More ▾

Books

titel ↕	Has book author ↕	Has book publishing year ↕	Has book ISBN ↕	Has book rating ↕
Das Glasperlenspiel	Hermann Hesse	2012	978-3518463574	1
Il Gattopardo	Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa	1990	978-8807810282	2
Johann Christof	Romain Rolland	1977	978-3423020329	1
Siddhartha	Hermann Hesse	1974	978-3518366820	1
The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde	2015	978-1783293650	1
The Turn of the Screw	Henry James	1991	978-0486266848	2
Venus in Furs	Leopold von Sacher-Masoch	2008	978-1604501292	3

... but the column labels should be changed!

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- #ask query

```
{ {#ask:  
  [[Category:Book]]  
  [[Has book title::+]]  
  |?Has book author=author  
  |?Has book publishing year=year  
  |?Has book ISBN=ISBN  
  |?Has book rating=rating  
  |mainlabel=title  
}}
```

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

Page [Discussion](#) [Read](#) [Edit](#) [View history](#) [★](#) [More ▼](#)

Books

title ↕	author ↕	year ↕	ISBN ↕	rating ↕
Das Glasperlenspiel	Hermann Hesse	2012	978-3518463574	1
Il Gattopardo	Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa	1990	978-8807810282	2
Johann Christof	Romain Rolland	1977	978-3423020329	1
Siddhartha	Hermann Hesse	1974	978-3518366820	1
The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde	2015	978-1783293650	1
The Turn of the Screw	Henry James	1991	978-0486266848	2
Venus in Furs	Leopold von Sacher-Masoch	2008	978-1604501292	3

... but the column labels should not be linking to the property page!

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- `#ask query`

```
{ {#ask:  
  [[Category:Book]]  
  [[Has book title::+]]  
  |?Has book author=author  
  |?Has book publishing year=year  
  |?Has book ISBN=ISBN  
  |?Has book rating=rating  
  |mainlabel=title  
  |headers=plain  
}}
```


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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

Page **Discussion** [Read](#) [Edit](#) [View history](#) [★](#) [More](#)

Books

title ↕	author ↕	year ↕	ISBN ↕	rating ↕
Das Glasperlenspiel	Hermann Hesse	2012	978-3518463574	1
Il Gattopardo	Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa	1990	978-8807810282	2
Johann Christof	Romain Rolland	1977	978-3423020329	1
Siddhartha	Hermann Hesse	1974	978-3518366820	1
The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde	2015	978-1783293650	1
The Turn of the Screw	Henry James	1991	978-0486266848	2
Venus in Furs	Leopold von Sacher-Masoch	2008	978-1604501292	3

... but the tabel should be sorted by year!

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- `#ask query`

```
{ {#ask:  
  [[Category:Book]]  
  [[Has book title::+]]  
  |?Has book author=author  
  |?Has book publishing year=year  
  |?Has book ISBN=ISBN  
  |?Has book rating=rating  
  |mainlabel=title  
  |headers=plain  
  |sort=Has book publishing year  
}}
```

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

Page [Discussion](#) [Read](#) [Edit](#) [View history](#) [★](#) [More](#)

Books

title ↕	author ↕	year ↕	ISBN ↕	rating ↕
Siddhartha	Hermann Hesse	1974	978-3518366820	1
Johann Christof	Romain Rolland	1977	978-3423020329	1
Il Gattopardo	Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa	1990	978-8807810282	2
The Turn of the Screw	Henry James	1991	978-0486266848	2
Venus in Furs	Leopold von Sacher-Masoch	2008	978-1604501292	3
Das Glasperlenspiel	Hermann Hesse	2012	978-3518463574	1
The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde	2015	978-1783293650	1

... but the year should be sorted in descending order!

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- #ask query

```
{ {#ask:  
  [[Category:Book]]  
  [[Has book title::+]]  
  |?Has book author=author  
  |?Has book publishing year=year  
  |?Has book ISBN=ISBN  
  |?Has book rating=rating  
  |mainlabel=title  
  |headers=plain  
  |sort=Has book publishing year  
  |order=descending  
}}
```

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

Page [Discussion](#) [Read](#) [Edit](#) [View history](#) [★](#) [More](#)

Books

title ↕	author ↕	year ↕	ISBN ↕	rating ↕
The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde	2015	978-1783293650	1
Das Glasperlenspiel	Hermann Hesse	2015	978-3518463574	1
Venus in Furs	Leopold von Sacher-Masoch	2008	978-1604501292	3
The Turn of the Screw	Henry James	1991	978-0486266848	2
Il Gattopardo	Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa	1990	978-8807810282	2
Johann Christof	Romain Rolland	1977	978-3423020329	1
Siddhartha	Hermann Hesse	1974	978-3518366820	1

... but the author should also be sorted but in ascending order!

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- #ask query

```
{ {#ask:  
  [[Category:Book]]  
  [[Has book title::+]]  
  |?Has book author=author  
  |?Has book publishing year=year  
  |?Has book ISBN=ISBN  
  |?Has book rating=rating  
  |mainlabel=title  
  |headers=plain  
  |sort=Has book publishing year,Has book author  
  |order=descending,ascending  
}}
```

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

Page [Discussion](#) [Read](#) [Edit](#) [View history](#) [★](#) [More](#)

Books

title ↕	author ↕	year ↕	ISBN ↕	rating ↕
Das Glasperlenspiel	Hermann Hesse	2015	978-3518463574	1
The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde	2015	978-1783293650	1
Venus in Furs	Leopold von Sacher-Masoch	2008	978-1604501292	3
The Turn of the Screw	Henry James	1991	978-0486266848	2
Il Gattopardo	Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa	1990	978-8807810282	2
Johann Christof	Romain Rolland	1977	978-3423020329	1
Siddhartha	Hermann Hesse	1974	978-3518366820	1

... but the values for year and rating should be centered!

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- #ask query

```
{ {#ask:  
  [[Category:Book]]  
  [[Has book title::+]]  
  |?Has book author=author  
  |?Has book publishing year=year|+align=center  
  |?Has book ISBN=ISBN  
  |?Has book rating=rating|+align=center  
  |mainlabel=title  
  |headers=plain  
  |sort=Has book publishing year,Has book author  
  |order=descending,ascending  
}}
```


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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

Page [Discussion](#) [Read](#) [Edit](#) [View history](#) [★](#) [More](#)

Books

title ↕	author ↕	year ↕	ISBN ↕	rating ↕
Das Glasperlenspiel	Hermann Hesse	2015	978-3518463574	1
The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde	2015	978-1783293650	1
Venus in Furs	Leopold von Sacher-Masoch	2008	978-1604501292	3
The Turn of the Screw	Henry James	1991	978-0486266848	2
Il Gattopardo	Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa	1990	978-8807810282	2
Johann Christof	Romain Rolland	1977	978-3423020329	1
Siddhartha	Hermann Hesse	1974	978-3518366820	1

... but I would like to have a short introductory sentence!

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- #ask query

```
{ {#ask:
  [[Category:Book]]
  [[Has book title::+]]
  |?Has book author=author
  |?Has book publishing year=year|+align=center
  |?Has book ISBN=ISBN
  |?Has book rating=rating|+align=center
  |intro=<b>This table shows the books I have stored here:</b>
  |mainlabel=title
  |headers=plain
  |sort=Has book publishing year,Has book author
  |order=descending,ascending
}}
```

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

Page [Discussion](#) [Read](#) [Edit](#) [View history](#) [★](#) [More](#)

Books

This table shows the books I have stored here:

title ↕	author ↕	year ↕	ISBN ↕	rating ↕
Das Glasperlenspiel	Hermann Hesse	2015	978-3518463574	1
The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde	2015	978-1783293650	1
Venus in Furs	Leopold von Sacher-Masoch	2008	978-1604501292	3
The Turn of the Screw	Henry James	1991	978-0486266848	2
Il Gattopardo	Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa	1990	978-8807810282	2
Johann Christof	Romain Rolland	1977	978-3423020329	1
Siddhartha	Hermann Hesse	1974	978-3518366820	1

... but I would like show only the first three results!

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- #ask query

```
{{#ask:
  [[Category:Book]]
  [[Has book title::+]]
  |?Has book author=author
  |?Has book publishing year=year|+align=center
  |?Has book ISBN=ISBN
  |?Has book rating=rating|+align=center
  |intro=<b>This table shows the books I have stored here:</b>
  |mainlabel=title
  |headers=plain
  |sort=Has book publishing year,Has book author
  |order=descending,ascending
  |limit=3
}}
```

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

Page [Discussion](#) [Read](#) [Edit](#) [View history](#) [★](#) [More ▼](#)

Books

This table shows the books I have stored here:

title ↕	author ↕	year ↕	ISBN ↕	rating ↕
Das Glasperlenspiel	Hermann Hesse	2015	978-3518463574	1
The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde	2015	978-1783293650	1
Venus in Furs	Leopold von Sacher-Masoch	2008	978-1604501292	3
... autres résultats				

... in English and a bit more specific please!

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages (syntax):

- #ask query

```
{{#ask:  
  [[Category:Book]]  
  [[Has book title::+]]  
  |?Has book author=author  
  |?Has book publishing year=year|+align=center  
  |?Has book ISBN=ISBN  
  |?Has book rating=rating|+align=center  
  |intro=<b>This table shows the books I have stored here:</b>  
  |mainlabel=title  
  |searchlabel=... more books  
  |headers=plain  
  |sort=Has book publishing year,Has book author  
  |order=descending,ascending  
  |limit=3  
}}
```

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How-tos and examples galore! Querying pages.

- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

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title ↕	author ↕	year ↕	ISBN ↕	rating ↕
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The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde	2015	978-1783293650	1
Venus in Furs	Leopold von Sacher-Masoch	2008	978-1604501292	3
... more books				

What happens if there are any results?

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- Querying pages (syntax):

- #ask query

```
{ {#ask:
  [[Category:Book]]
  [[Has book title::+]]
  |?Has book author=author
  |?Has book publishing year=year|+align=center
  |?Has book ISBN=ISBN
  |?Has book rating=rating|+align=center
  |intro=<b>This table shows the books I have stored here:</b>
  |mainlabel=title
  |searchlabel=... more books
  |default=<b>Currently no bookes have been stored yet:</b>
  |headers=plain
  |sort=Has book publishing year,Has book author
  |order=descending,ascending
  |limit=3
}}
```


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Can I also download this information?

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- Querying pages (syntax):

- #ask query

```
{ {#ask:
  [[Category:Book]]
  [[Has book title::+]]
  |?Has book author=author
  |?Has book publishing year=year
  |?Has book ISBN=ISBN
  |?Has book rating=rating
  |mainlabel=title
  |searchlabel=CSV-download of stored books
  |default=<b>Currently no bookes have been stored yet.</b>
  |sort=Has book publishing year,Has book author
  |order=descending,ascending
  |format=csv
}}
```

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- Querying pages:
 - `#ask query (result)`

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Thank you!